

NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
700 E. Fifth Street
Carson City, Nevada 89701

New Nevada Plan Mid-Cycle Feedback Memo

DATE: February 7, 2017
TO: ESSA Advisory Group
FROM: Alberto Quintero
RE: New Nevada Plan Feedback

I. QUALITATIVE PUBLIC COMMENT FEEDBACK SUMMARY:

The following qualitative public comment feedback summary is from the Nevada ESSA Plan Stakeholder Survey on the Nevada Department of Education website. As of February 7, 2017, 40 stakeholders have responded to the survey. Below is a summary list of content concerns of note:

- Concerns regarding the state's ability to effectively implement the New Nevada Plan.
- Several stakeholders noted the omission of Nevada's Native American demographic in the plan and specific strategies concerning Native Americans.
- Lack of specificity in action steps.
- Ensuring increased *access* of high quality early childhood programs should be a priority in addition to the long-term goal and annual benchmark of increasing the number of high-quality early childhood programs (Equity issue).
- More needs to be done for students with disabilities, especially identifying and supporting English learners with disabilities.
- A more detailed definition of what makes a school leader an effective or ineffective leader is needed.

*Qualitative public comment feedback is limited to the New Nevada Plan.

II. QUANTITATIVE PUBLIC COMMENT FEEDBACK SUMMARY:

The following quantitative public comment feedback results are from the Nevada ESSA Plan Stakeholder Survey on the Nevada Department of Education website. As of February 7, 2017, 40 stakeholders have responded to the survey. Below are the average results to each statement in the survey (1=Strongly Disagree, 5=Strongly Agree).

1. Nevada's ESSA plan puts us on the path to be the fastest improving state in the nation. **(3.18)**

2. The plan embodies the principle that Nevada believes that strong school principals and leaders are the key to ensuring every student has access to a high quality classroom in a great school. **(3.28)**
3. The proposed assessment system provides parents the information necessary to know whether or not their student is on the path to be college and career ready at the end of high school. **(2.80)**
4. The accountability framework shows school administrators and staff how they can improve their school and provides policymakers (state and local) with areas to focus on that will improve education in Nevada. **(2.35)**
- 4a. The accountability framework provides meaningful information for families to hold their school accountable for continued improvement and to make choices about the best educational option for their children. **(2.28)**
5. It should be possible in the accountability framework for a school that has one or more persistently under-performing subgroups to receive a 3, 4, or 5 star rating. **(2.53)**
6. The school support and intervention strategies as outlined in the plan puts Nevada on the path to ensure that every student will be in a school that is 3-star or above, in three years. **(2.43)**
7. The plan embodies the principle that Nevada is committed to providing accurate and precise data and believes there is a need to better translate the data in a meaningful way to school districts, school leaders, and teachers in order to identify needs and problem areas. **(3.05)**
8. The plan articulates a path for every student, including those in 1- or 2-star schools and those in schools identified as Zoom schools and Victory schools, to be served by a highly effective teacher. **(3.4)**
9. The plan embodies the principle that Nevada believes that educational attainment will ultimately impact a student's future ability to fully participate in a globally competitive job environment. The ESSA Plan must include a focus to ensure that all students, especially those historically underserved, are on track to graduate with the skills and dispositions necessary to enter a career or college. **(2.93)**
10. The plan addresses the needs of our diverse students and the needs of urban and rural schools and districts. **(2.65)**

*Quantitative public comment feedback is limited to the New Nevada Plan.

III. ADDITIONAL OBSERVATIONS:

With the publication of the recently publicized Nevada Consolidated State Plan, stakeholders will have available the document that will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Education and a more specific and comprehensive view of the state's implementation steps and processes. More public comment feedback is welcomed on the New Nevada Plan and the Nevada Consolidated State Plan to have a more inclusive and comprehensive understanding of stakeholder feedback.